

1 ABSTRACT

2 A vehicle surroundings monitoring apparatus, comprises
3 frontal information detecting means for detecting solid object
4 information in front of an own vehicle, preceding vehicle
5 recognizing means for recognizing a preceding vehicle based on
6 the solid object information, traveling path estimating means
7 for estimating a traveling path of the own vehicle, first
8 evacuation possibility judging means for judging a first
9 possibility of relative evacuation between the preceding vehicle
10 and the own vehicle according to positions of the preceding vehicle
11 and the own vehicle, second evacuation possibility judging means
12 for judging a second possibility of relative evacuation between
13 the preceding vehicle and the own vehicle according to information
14 of solid objects other than the preceding vehicle, and preceding
15 vehicle evacuation possibility judging means for judging a final
16 possibility of relative evacuation between the preceding vehicle
17 and the own vehicle based on the first possibility and the second
18 possibility.